

I claim:

Claim 1: An apparatus for affixing a push nut to an elongated axle rod of a wheeled rollout cart, where the push nut includes a cap for receiving the end of the axle rod, an annular flange extended around the cap and a tooth formed between the cap and the flange that restrictively engages the axle rod when pressed onto the axle rod, the apparatus comprising:

a frame;

an abutment part mounted to the frame;

an extensible ram mounted to the frame for movement between an extended position and a retracted position, the ram spaced from the abutment part for receiving the axle rod axially between the abutment part and the ram, the ram includes a fitting mounted for receiving the push nut therein; and

means operatively connected to the frame and ram for reciprocating the ram from the retracted position to the extended position to axially press the push nut received in the fitting onto the axle rod received between the abutment part and the ram.

Claim 2: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the abutment part is selectively mounted to the frame at one of a plurality of discrete positions along the frame.

Claim 3: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the fitting includes a magnet.

Claim 4: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the frame includes an axle support mounted between the abutment part and the ram.

Claim 5: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the abutment part includes a second fitting for receiving the push nut therein.

Claim 6: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the frame includes a choke positioned between the ram and the abutment part for receiving a wheel of the cart.

Claim 7: The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the reciprocating means includes a lever pivotally connected to the frame and the ram.

Claim 8: An apparatus for removing a push nut from an elongated axle rod of a wheeled rollout cart, where the push nut includes a cap for receiving the end of the

axle rod, an annular flange extended around the cap and a tooth formed between the cap and the flange that restrictively engages the axle rod when pressed onto the axle rod, the apparatus comprising:

- a frame;

- an abutment part mounted to the frame;

- an extensible ram mounted to the frame for movement between an extended position and a retracted position, the ram spaced from the abutment part for receiving the axle rod axially between the abutment part and the ram, the ram includes a fitting for contacting the flange of the push nut near the tooth; and

- means operatively connected to the frame and ram for reciprocating the ram from the retracted position to the extended position to forcibly deform the flange around the tooth of the push nut mounted to the axle rod received between the abutment part and ram and to bend the tooth away from the axle rod.

Claim 9: The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the fitting includes a prong.

Claim 10: The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the abutment part is selectively mounted to the frame at one of a plurality of discrete positions along the frame.

Claim 11: The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the frame includes a wheel choke positioned between the ram and the abutment part for receiving a wheel of the cart.

Claim 12: The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the reciprocating means includes a lever pivotally connected to the frame and the ram.

Claim 13: An apparatus for affixing a push nut to an elongated axle rod of a wheeled rollout cart and removing a push nut from an elongated axle rod of a wheeled rollout cart, where the push nut includes a cap for receiving the end of the axle rod, an annular flange extended around the cap and a tooth formed between the cap and the flange that restrictively engages the axle rod when pressed onto the axle rod, the apparatus comprising:

- a frame;

- an abutment part mounted to the frame;

- a first interchangeable fitting for receiving the push nut therein when the

apparatus is used to affix the push nut to the axle rod;

and a second interchangeable fitting for forcibly contacting the push nut mounted to the axle rod when the apparatus is used to remove the push nut from the axle rod;

an extensible ram mounted to the frame for movement between an extended position and a retracted position, the ram spaced from the abutment part for receiving the axle rod axially between the abutment part and the ram, the extensible ram adapted to receive one of the first interchangeable fitting and a second interchangeable fitting; and

means operatively connected to the frame and ram for reciprocating the ram from the retracted position to the extended position such that one of the first interchangeable fitting and the second interchangeable fitting engages the axle rod received between the abutment part and the ram whereby the first interchangeable fitting presses the push nut axially onto the axle rod when the first interchangeable fitting is received by the ram and the second interchangeable fitting forcibly deforms the flange around the tooth and bends the tooth away from the axle rod when the second interchangeable fitting is received by the ram.

Claim 14: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the abutment part is selectively mounted to the frame at one of a plurality of discrete positions along the frame.

Claim 15: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the first interchangeable fitting includes a cup part having in an interior defined therein for receiving the push nut.

Claim 16: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the first interchangeable fitting includes a magnet.

Claim 17: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the second interchangeable fitting includes a prong, the prong engaging the push nut flange adjacent the tooth, so as to deform the push nut flange and bend the tooth away from restrictive engagement with the axle rod.

Claim 18: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the frame includes an axle support mounted between the abutment part and the ram.

Claim 19: The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein the abutment part includes a tray for supporting the axle between the abutment stop and ram.

Claim 20: The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein the reciprocating means includes a lever pivotally connected to the frame and the ram.